(b) if so, what are the reliefs prayed for in the petition;

(c) have the Government so far sanctioned any of these reliefs;

(d) have any of the officers of the Government visited the said villages in response to the petition referred to above; and if so, have they submitted any report to the Government in case they have; will the Government be pleased to place on the table a copy of that report?

Mr. K Achyuta Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) To grant them a total remission of tax and rent for the year 1109 to render them substantial monetary help for the purchase of seeds and manure, and to take steps to relieve them generally from heavy indebtedness.

(c) The matter is engaging the attention of Government.

(d) The Tahsildar and the Diwan Peishkar have visited the villages. A copy of the Diwan Peishkar's report dated 4th November 1933, No. D. 1813/1109, on the subject is appended. (*Appendix VIII*).

Reduction of 12½% Land Revenue.

78. Mr. P. Krishna Menon—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether any instructions were issued to the subordinate revenue officers to prepare the kistbandi statement deducting 12½% from land revenue as adumbrated in the budget for 1109;

(b) if issued, what is the date of the earliest order;

(c) is it not a fact that no instructions were issued before 15th Kanni 1109, the date on which the returns are generally prepared;

(d) is it not a fact that in consequence of the delay in issuing instructions, all the statements throughout the State were prepared without making any deduction whatever;

(e) is it not a fact that Thulam and Vrischigam instalments were realised without making any deductions;

(f) is it not the practice throughout the State that revenue demands below one rupee are always collected in one instalment both in the case of paddy lands and paramba;

(g) has not the delay caused enormous increase in the work of the subordinate staff in the preparation of accounts;

(h) what is the Government proposal in the case of those realisations of below one rupee where no more amounts are to be realised from those pattadars?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—(a) Yes, the deduction being at the rate of 18¾ per cent.

(b) The earliest order is dated 15th Vrischigam 1109.

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(c) Yes. Final orders on the question of remission were passed only later on.

(d) Yes.

(e) Yes

(f) Yes.

(g) Yes. This increase in work is unavoidable.

(h) The amount collected in excess will be treated as an excess collection to be adjusted towards the amount that may be due from the parties either in the current or in coming year.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—With regard to question (a) would not the answer 'No' be more appropriate instead of 'Yes'?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—The order sanctioning the reduction 18¾ per cent was passed in Vrischigam 1109. The order could not be issued earlier because Government orders sanctioning 12½ per cent came only later.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—So, the order for the reduction of the 12½ per cent was issued only in Vrischigam.

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon—The Government orders came on the 15th Vrischigam and the instructions to the subordinates came next after that.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Have deductions been made subsequently?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—The whole deduction for Viruppu crop is given in Dhanu.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—With regard to the parambas has deduction begun to be given?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—Deduction in collections made in Thulam and Vrischigam will be treated as excess collection.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Is the practice uniform in the State?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon.—It has now become uniform.

Agriculture Loans—distribution.

79. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—With reference to question No. 47 and supplemental questions answered on 31st July 1933, will the Government be pleased to state —

(a) whether the Government have considered the matter of fairly dividing first among the taluks the whole amount sanctioned or earmarked annually for agricultural loans and then dividing the amounts among the deserving applicants in each taluk; and if so,

(b) whether the above principle will be followed hereafter; and if not,

(c) what other principle will be followed by the Government for having a fair and equitable distribution of the total loan amount for the year between the different taluks,

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